

LICHFIELD CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Planning Applications Committee held in Committee Room 1, Guildhall, Lichfield, at 6.30pm on Thursday, 12 March 2015

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs J Greaves (Chairman), and Councillors Mrs J Allsopp, R Awty, B Bacon, Mrs N Bacon, Mrs M Bland, Mrs G Boyle, J Brooks, B Cocksey, B Diggle, Mrs V Diggle, D Dundas, T Finn, C Greatorex, I Jackson, Mrs S James, C Spruce, M Taylor, A Thompson and M Warfield

APOLOGIES: Councillors Mrs J Eagland, P Hitchman, D Smedley, A Smith and Mrs S Strachan

104 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Those City Councillors present who were also members of the District Council's Planning Committee and Licensing Committee confirmed that their comments at this meeting were a preliminary view and that they might change their view when they heard all of the evidence at the District Council's Planning Committee.

Councillor T Finn declared an Interest under Appendix A of the City Council's Code of Conduct in respect of the petition against the proposed new primary school on Cherry Orchard, as he was a member of Staffordshire County Council. The Town Clerk reported that Councillor Finn had made a written application prior to the meeting for a Dispensation to be granted to him to permit him to speak and vote on this matter, and that this Committee had delegated power to grant Dispensations.

RESOLVED: *That Cllr T Finn be granted a Dispensation permitting him to speak and vote on the petition relating to the proposed new primary school on Cherry Orchard.*

105 MINUTES

RESOLVED: *That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 February 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.*

The meeting was adjourned

Mr J Anketell then addressed members in support of a petition which had been submitted to the City Council opposing the proposed new primary school on Cherry Orchard. He circulated photographs showing the current traffic problems on Cherry Orchard, which was diversion route for HGV's over 14'.

The meeting was reconvened.

106 PETITION – NEW CHERRY ORCHARD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Members considered a 262 name petition which had been submitted stating that:

We the undersigned urgently call on Lichfield City and District councillors and Staffordshire County councillors, also Michael Fabricant, MP to ensure that the recent decision to build a third primary school in Cherry Orchard, Lichfield is revoked and that this third school is built in a safer and more suitable location closer to the relevant new homes built in south Lichfield."

Members gave a detailed consideration to the petition, and the issues and traffic concerns raised by Mr Anketell. It was noted that the County Council had already granted planning permission for the school at its meeting on 5 March. It was further noted that there was a current need for additional primary school places in south Lichfield and that two further primary schools were proposed for south Lichfield (one at London Road and a second at Deanslade Farm), to meet the needs of new residential development approved in the Local Plan.

RESOLVED: That this Council sympathises with the concerns raised in the petition but fears that it is now too late to prevent the school being developed, as the County Council has already decided to proceed with a school on this site. However, the petition to be forwarded to Staffordshire County Council highlighting the traffic issues on Cherry Orchard; expressing strong concerns about highway safety issues arising with the new school; requesting that all possible measures be taken to reduce these problems; and requesting a response from the County Council on the measures that will be taken

107 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

RESOLVED:

- 1 That the decisions of Lichfield District Council on planning applications as listed on Agenda Appendix 'B' be received and noted.***
- 2 That recommendations be submitted to Lichfield District Council in respect of planning applications as listed in Appendix 'A'.***

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.34PM

CHAIRMAN